



Discussion of Using Gray Water On The Landscape

The use of downspout water, if filtered into a tank, can be used for surface watering without special provisions. See articles below by Kim D. Coder, Extension Forester with UGA CAES. Additionally, separating slightly used (gray) water from sewage (black water) makes good conservation sense. Slightly used water can provide an alternative landscape irrigation source. Gray water is water that can be used twice, and includes the treated discharge from kitchen sinks and dishwashers (not garbage disposals); bathtubs, showers and lavatories (not toilets); and the household laundry (not diaper water). Using gray water can almost double home water-use efficiency and provide a water source for landscape irrigation.

Water Conservation through the use of Gray Water in residential landscapes may be permitted within the City of Marietta, in accordance with the International Plumbing Code. The water must be treated in accordance with established standards, and only underground irrigation is allowable. A City of Marietta Building Permit would be required. Dependent upon proposal, Cobb County Health Department approval and permit may be required for compliance with State Law.

LINKS for further information:

Articles from the University of Georgia:

<http://interests.caes.uga.edu/drought/articles/gwlands.htm>

<http://www.caes.uga.edu/topics/disasters/drought/home/graywater.html>

Georgia Department of Community Affairs:

<http://www.dca.state.ga.us/development/ConstructionCodes/programs/buildingOfficials.asp>

Other Information:

<http://www.accessnorthga.com/detail.php?n=204335>

<http://www.toolbase.org/Techinventory/TechDetails.aspx?ContentDetailID=907&BucketID=6&CategoryID=11>

<http://www.ecospace.cc/environment/gray-water-conservation-1107.htm>

International Plumbing Code:

<http://www.state-code-books.com/georgia-state-codes.shtml>

<http://resourcecenter.pnl.gov/cocoon/morf/ResourceCenter/article/1638>

Conserve Water Georgia:

<http://www.conservewatergeorgia.net/>

Georgia Building Officials:

http://www.dca.state.ga.us/development/ConstructionCodes/programs/downloads/CodesPDF/bldgofficialsdirectory3_24_08.pdf